

# April

Be Sure to LOOK for those Buttons and  
roll-over effects

Magic Lantern Society **NEWS**

**2012**



## Thomas Nast's Original "April Fool's Pranks" Print

This is an original 1864 illustration featuring April Fool's Pranks. It is an amazing piece of history, showing the pranks that people were playing on April Fool's Day, 1864.

This is an original Thomas Nast illustration from the April 2, 1864 edition of Harper's Weekly. The illustration features about a dozen images of April Fool's day pranks. The illustration is captioned, "All Fool's Day", and shows Thomas Nast's distinctive signature in the lower right of the center image.

Some of the pranks illustrated in this 1864 picture include women paying a visit to an older man, with the women wearing beards and moustaches. Another image shows Civil War Soldiers playing April Fool's tricks on one another. In one case, a soldier is seen holding his hand on in front of the binoculars of a friend, and in another case, a sailor is seen holding his hat over the telescope

of a friend. In one of the lower images, a young boy can be seen tying a string on the dress of a little girl, and in another image a school teacher is seen with a sign on his back that says "Old Fool". Overall this is an extremely interesting piece of artwork, showing the April Fool's traditions of 1864.

[http://www.sonofthesouth.net/History\\_April\\_Fools.htm](http://www.sonofthesouth.net/History_April_Fools.htm)



**Did you find the April Fools?**

## Illustrated Song Program



Galen Wilkes presented an illustrated lecture called From Vaudeville To The Nickelodeon: A History Of The Illustrated Song at the Mark Taper Auditorium, Los Angeles, Feb. 18, 2012. Many film scholars and authors were in attendance who were impressed with the abundance of information jam-packed into the program. Hundreds of rare images and photos were used along with obscure history Galen has researched. The program also included recordings from a 1908 Edison Talking Machine; an exhibit of artifacts from the early 1900s; and performance by vocalist Mikal Sandoval.



## LANTERN SLIDES.

### Lot of Pretty Pictures Brought to Akron.

A collection of lantern slides numbering nearly one hundred and fifty has been received by the lantern slide committee, and will be shown at a special meeting Wednesday night. The set is composed of slides from three clubs: The San Diego, Cal., Camera club, with scenes from the mountains and valleys of California; the Garden of the Gods, the Pacific Ocean, etc. The Chicago Camera club, with many beautiful and artistic slides. The Washington, D. C., club, with scenes of great historical interest. The set as a whole is unusually good, and should be seen by all members.

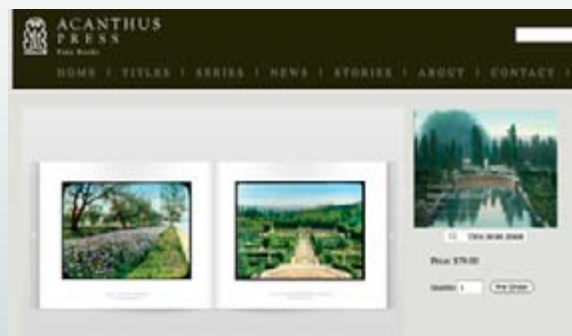
From Akron Daily Democrat.,  
March 05, 1902

## Rare Garden Slide Archive Discovered

The garden lantern slide book has made it into print! Sam Watters is coming east to give the first “book talk” on April 13 at the Library of Congress. Details here, [www.loc.gov/today/pr/2012/index.html](http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2012/index.html) Sample pages from the book here, <http://www.acanthuspress.com/ps-70-4-gardens-for-a-beautiful-america.aspx>

Sam persuaded the publisher to include several photos showing the “whole slide” so that readers can have a taste of the “source” as well as the beautiful image content.

Helena Zinkham  
Chief, Prints & Photographs Division  
Library of Congress  
Washington, DC 20540-4730  
[hzin@loc.gov](mailto:hzin@loc.gov)



<http://www.acanthuspress.com/ps-70-4-gardens-for-a-beautiful-america.aspx>



Famed Woman Photographer Wanted to Green America 80 Years Ago

In April 2012 Acanthus Press, in collaboration with the Library of Congress, is publishing *Gardens for a Beautiful America, 1895–1935: Photographs by Frances Benjamin Johnston*, written by Sam Watters. Drawing from a rare archive in the Library’s collection, the book will present 250 reproductions of hand-colored glass lantern slides, not seen in their full glory for over 70 years.

Johnston was one of the first professional American women photographers and a leader in the house and garden movement that emerged with new wealth at the turn of the 20th century. In the 1930s Johnston deeded to the Library of Congress her collection of 1100 hand-colored lantern slides produced for lectures on garden design and planting that she delivered across America in the 1920s to gardening Americans living in the East, West, North and South.

Five years ago historian Sam Watters learned of the garden collection from an online note to the Johnston archive, only to discover that the slides,



*Gardens for a Beautiful America, 1895–1935, Photographs by Frances Benjamin Johnston. By Sam Watters, Preface by C. Ford Peatross. Published in collaboration with the Library of Congress. 11 x 9.5 inches, 376 pages*

though in pristine condition, were largely uncataloged and un-labeled, anonymous miniatures from lost worlds of beauty and privilege. Today, Watters has identified the gardens and houses in these rare, colorful plates. The full catalog of Johnston’s garden slides will be published in April 2012 on the Library of Congress website.

With 250 color plates of slides from the library’s collection, *Gardens for a Beautiful America* presents photographer Frances Benjamin Johnston front and center in the Garden Beautiful movement, as both Progressive Era advocate and artist working with garden clubs and horticultural societies to green tenement lots, parks and row house yards devastated by Gilded Age pollution and neglect.



## Lantern Slides

The Geographical Association was founded at a meeting held in the Common Room at Christ Church College, Oxford on the 20th May 1893.

Several “progressive teachers of geography” were taking up the ideas of Halford Mackinder and John Scott Keltie, including the use of the ‘lantern projector’. During the 1890s there was heated debate about the use of these devices (perhaps mirroring the current debates over GIS, and the value of Interactive whiteboards)

B Bentham Dickinson was an advocate of using lantern slides, but didn't have enough of his own, so in 1893 he attempted to exchange slides with other teachers, and a meeting was held which broadened out into the formation of an association to promote the teaching of geography.

At the weekend, I was in the loft sorting out the Christmas decorations and came across a bag of lantern slides, one of which is reproduced below. It's a glass slide about 6cm across, and features of an image of morainic features at a glacier margin.



What's nice is that the lantern slide was produced by George Philip and Son on Fleet Street, and one of the first benefits of being a GA member was a discount on lantern slides produced by this firm. In 1903, they also negotiated with the Ordnance Survey for a discount on the price of maps bought for educational use.

Information taken from “The Geographical Association: The First Hundred Years 1893-1993, by W.G.V. Balchin (Geographical Association, 1993)

What's interesting is that over 100 years later, teachers are still exchanging slides, but this time of the powerpoint variety, and all Year 7 pupils get a free map from the Ordnance Survey.

From



[http://livinggeography.blogspot.com/2008\\_12\\_07\\_archive.html](http://livinggeography.blogspot.com/2008_12_07_archive.html)

GeoBlogs

Norfolk, United Kingdom

I'm Alan Parkinson, Secondary Curriculum Development Leader of the Geographical Association August 2008-11, and now an Independent consultant, author and trainer - Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society - Chartered Geographer - Founder member of the Geography Collective - OU Vital Geography Portal Manager If you'd like me to work with you, get in touch.

## Inquiry From Student

Magic Lantern Society might be able to help me with my research.

I'm an art history PhD student at York University in Toronto, Canada, and am studying the Colonial Office Visual Instruction Committee's photographic slide lecture series, which were created in England between 1908-11 (later, updated editions were also sold in 1923). They were published by Newton & Co. in London, but sold to schools all over the world, including Canada and the US. Halford J. Mackinder authored the first few lectures, while later editions were written by A. J. Sargent. All the photographs and drawings for the magic lantern presentations were taken by A. Hugh Fisher. More information about him, and the project, can be found here: [http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/rccs\\_photographers/entry.php?id=179](http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/rccs_photographers/entry.php?id=179).

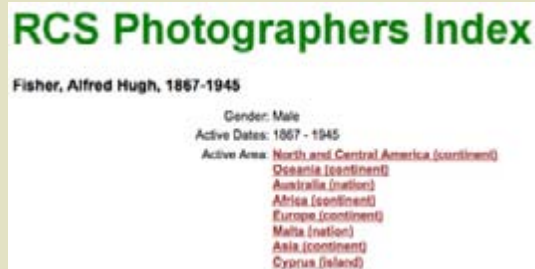
I have been to the archives where the photographs that were made for the lectures are now stored, but no one seems to know if there is an existing set of the slides. I would very much like to find a set to examine for my research and am wondering if anyone in the society has a set in their collection, or has ever heard of this particular set of lectures. I will also be in Vancouver, BC, during the 2012 convention in Tacoma, so may be able to meet up with a member in-person, if anyone is interested in speaking with me about the project.

If you know of anyone who might be able to help me locate these slides, I would be very grateful to be in touch with them. Please let me know if you have any questions, or require further information from me.

Thanks very much in advance,

Gabby Moser

Gabrielle Moser  
867 Ossington Ave, Apt 2,  
Toronto, ON M6G 3V2  
gabbymoser@gmail.com  
gabriellemoser.com



## Updates to Member Contact Information

## Freire, Rafael de Luna

Beco Dehoul, 11, 204  
Tijuca, RJ  
20521-190  
Brazil

## Pease, Bradford

459 Village Dr.  
Bethlehem, PA 18018-6350

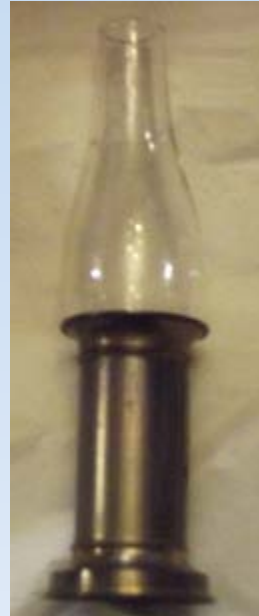
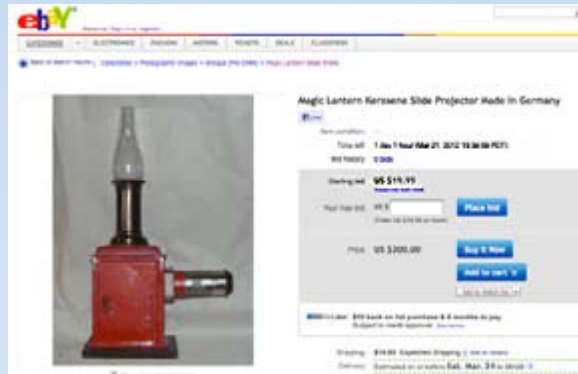


Dec 1905

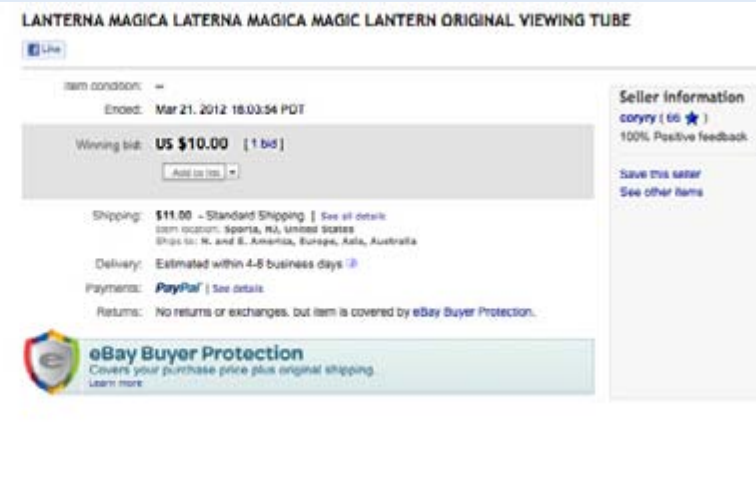
More On



## Unusal Items On Ebay



Antique Magic Lantern Kerosene slide viewer projector. Made in Germany in original box with 12 glass slides depicting various scenes. The slides fit neatly into a slotted slide tray which is stored in the box. One of the slides is cracked but has been repaired. Metal projector base sits on 4 X 5 inch wood base. Metal housing measures 5 X 6 inches. Metal door opens to reveal small kerosene lamp reservoir with original wick in place and operating screw. The lamp base fits inside of metal housing. A 3 1/2 inch brass chimney afixes to the top of the metal housing. The near perfect 4 3/4 inch glass flue assembles to the top. On the outer side of the slide projector a telegraphing telescopic magnifying glass expands from 2 1/4 to 3 1/2 inches. The box measures 8 1/2 X 7 X 4 1/2 inches, it has a small sticker affixed to the lid with a registration number No 265C/3. It is assumed that this projector is a childs version of the bigger projector as shown on the lid. Successful bidder to pay shipping in addition to the final auction price. Payment is expected within 3 days of auction close.

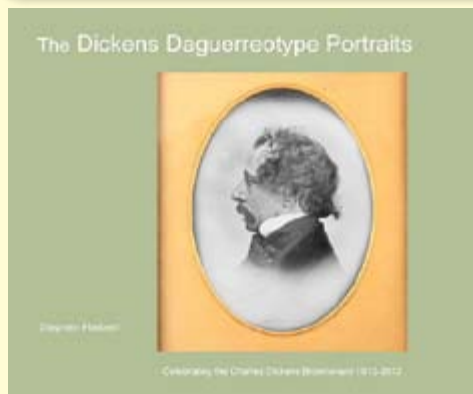






TheHerald Nov16, 1922  
NewOrleans

## News Blast for The Daguerreian Society



Here's an offer on a book that is Printed to Order

### THE DICKENS DAGUERREOTYPE PORTRAITS

by Stephen Herbert

This monograph is the result of extensive new research, detailing the very few daguerreotype portraits of Charles Dickens, and the single known daguerreotype portrait of his wife Catherine.

10 x 8. 44 pages. Many illustrations. Full color.

This is a POD book available from Blurb.com



<http://www.daguerre.org/>

## A Big Thank You to the following:

Debbie Borton  
Terry Borton  
Ron Easterday  
Gabrielle Moser  
Tom Rall  
Tim Shinnors  
Kentwood D. Wells  
Galen Wilkes  
Helena Zinkham

*for contributing to this months issue.*

## Now it's your turn to share!

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?

If your answer is yes! Send site information or your images to Larry and they will be shared in the next E-pub newsletter.

**E-mail Larry**

## The West's Largest One-Day Camera Sale-Swap-Show

32nd Annual Presentation

**Saturday, April 14  
10 am to 4 pm**

**Kent Commons Recreation Center  
525 Fourth Ave N., Kent, Washington.**



All interested in cameras and photographic  
Collectors, Buyers, Sellers, Swappers and Browsers  
140 tables for sale and up to 20 exhibit tables

\$5.00 donation at 10 am; \$20 for early-in at 8 am  
Plenty of FREE parking

**More Information: [www.PSPCS.org](http://www.PSPCS.org)**



The Magic Lantern  
will be there!

Group NW's usual  
display table will be  
there promoting the  
society and the  
up-coming  
convention.



## Historical Lighting Society of Canada

### SPRING MEETING

**FRIDAY APRIL 20 TO SUNDAY  
APRIL 22, 2012**

**The Midland Best Western Plus  
and Conference Centre**

**924 King St. Midland, Ontario, L4R 0B8**

**Phone: (705) 526-9307 or (800) 461-4265**

[http://www.historical-lighting.org/  
Meetings.htm](http://www.historical-lighting.org/Meetings.htm)



## From Ron Easterday

Shel Izen performed his Wilson Bentley Snow Crystal magic lantern show to an enthusiastic crowd of more than 80 attendees on **March 3**, as a fund raiser for the Kitsap County Historical Society. Offered for sale were professional prints of Bentley's snow crystal slides by the late Michael Lawlor, with a portion of the proceeds donated to the Historical Society.

This was the second attempt for the Shel and the Historical Society, as the first show in January was postponed – due to three days of record snow in Kitsap County.



## 15th International Convention



**June 21 — 24, 2012  
Tacoma WA**

The Best Western Tacoma Dome Hotel, 2611 East E St, Tacoma, WA  
Website link via [www.bestwestern.com](http://www.bestwestern.com) Toll-free reservations:  
800-780-7234 Direct Phone: (253) 272-7737  
Convention Room Rate: \$ 99.00/night. Lodging and sales tax approximately \$18/night.



By the way, if you have not made hotel reservations yet, you have to call the hotel in Tacoma directly to get the MLS rate. There are better rates on-line for weekdays, but when you add in the Saturday rate, the MLS rate is less as a total cost.



**NOW IS THE TIME TO  
REGISTER FOR THE  
CONVENTION**

**Check Out the Other  
Attractions**

**See next pages for  
sights and attractions  
before and after the  
convention**

Scheduled runs from Airport to Hotel  
and return to airport



Fares \$25 one way  
\$45 round trip



## General Convention Schedule

- **Thursday:** Welcome reception (cash bar) at the convention hotel late afternoon, before dinner on-your own.
- **Friday and Saturday:** Presentations at the hotel meeting rooms throughout the day with sales room. A special off-site visit is being planned for the latter part of Friday afternoon before dinner on-your-own. A special show Friday evening.
- **Saturday Evening:** Late afternoon trip to the Washington State History Museum with displays, convention dinner, and a public evening show in the museum auditorium.
- **Sunday morning/afternoon:** Business meeting and auction.

- Sales room
- Auction
- Presentations  
entertaining and educational
- Renew those friendships
- Start some new ones
- Chance to share

## Here are some attraction for Coming Early and Staying after the Convention

### Demographics

Statehood: November 11, 1889, the 42nd State

Capital: Olympia

Total Area: 19th among States 184,827 sq km (71,362 sq mi)

Water Area: 10,502 sq km (4,055 sq mi)

Highest Point: Mount Rainier 4,392 m (14,410 ft)

Total Population: 13th among States  
2010 Census - 6,724,540

Population Density in 2010: 101.2 people per sq mi

Distribution in 2000: 79.9% Urban, 20.1% Rural

Largest cities in 2010:

Seattle: 608,660

Spokane: 208,916

Tacoma: 198,397

Experience contemporary glass art in a breathtakingly beautiful museum on Tacoma's revitalized waterfront.

<http://www.museumofglass.org/>



The Washington State History Museum is where fascination and FUN come together!

<http://www.wshs.org/>



We bring history to life!

Travel back in time with us and experience life at a Hudson's Bay Company outpost built in 1833.

<http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/page.php?id=825>



### Interesting Facts

On May 18, 1980, Mount Saint Helens erupted in Washington, resulting in 57 deaths and billions of dollars in damage.

According to the 1990 census, more than half the residents of metropolitan Seattle were born outside Washington.

Washington is number one in the country in the production of these fruits and vegetables: apples, lentils, dry edible peas, hops, pears, red raspberries, spearmint oil, and sweet cherries.

Washington has over 1,000 dams.

Lewis and Clark explored the Columbia River area of what is now Washington in 1805-06.

The state of Washington is the only state to be named after a United States president.

Starbucks, the biggest coffee chain in the world was founded in Seattle.

The Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium has a wide variety of animal life, including land and marine denizens

<http://www.pdza.org/>





## More to See in the Northwest

The Museum of Flight showcases its collection of more than 150 historic air- and spacecraft and related artifacts in unique and inspiring exhibits

<http://www.museumofflight.org/>



The longest continuously operating steam train railroad in the Pacific Northwest, the MRSR is the result of one man's passion to preserve a colorful slice of America's heritage.

<http://www.mrsr.com/>



EMP is housed in a 140,000 square foot Frank O.Gehry designed building that includes multiple innovative galleries, an interactive Sound Lab, and Sky Church

<http://www.empmuseum.org/aboutEMP/index.asp>



The Burke Museum creates a better understanding of the world and our place in it. The museum is responsible for Washington State collections of natural and cultural heritage and sharing the knowledge that makes them meaningful.

<http://www.burkemuseum.org/>



LeMay – America's Car Museum (ACM) spotlights America's love affair with the automobile. Featuring a nine-acre campus – with a four-story museum as the centerpiece

<http://www.lemaymuseum.org/>



Mount Rainier National Park  
A Source of Inspiration

Learn about glaciers. Discover life in a rain-forest. Hike the Wonderland Trail. Explore subalpine ecology.

<http://www.nps.gov/mora/index.htm>



See bison, elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goats and more on a Northwest Trek Tram Tour.

<http://www.nwtrek.org/>





## More Events and Exhibits in Tacoma

### COMING SOON!

*The Magic of Lantern Slides*  
**April 11 through July 29, 2012**

Lantern slide programs enthralled 19th-century audiences. A projector containing a candle or oil lamp would transmit and enlarge images from hand-painted glass slides onto a wall. A more modern version used an incandescent bulb as a light source and projected slides made from hand-tinted photographs.

Lynette Miller, the Historical Society's head of collections, curates this exhibit of lantern slides, projectors, and advertising materials organized in conjunction with the national convention of the Magic Lantern Society, which takes place June 21–24 in Tacoma.

On June 1 at 7 p.m. and June 23 at 7:30 p.m., you can see for yourself what the excitement was about. You can enjoy the entertainment the Victorians enjoyed at two Magic Lantern Shows presented in conjunction with the convention.

Organized by the Washington State History Museum.

<http://www.washingtonhistory.org/wshm/featured-exhibits.aspx>



**Magic Lantern Shows**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 1 at 7:00pm**  
FREE program at the Knights of Pythias Hall  
See for yourself what the excitement was all about at a FREE magic Lantern slide show at the Pythias Hall in Tacoma!

<http://www.washingtonhistory.org/wshm/event-programs.aspx>



Knights of Pythias Hall, 926 1/2 Broadway, Tacoma, WA

*In conjunction with the upcoming Convention of the Magic Lantern Society, on June 23, there will be a special Victorian Magic Lantern Show, open to the public.*



**SATURDAY, JUNE 23 at 7:30pm**  
Tickets: \$12 each,  
available from the Magic Lantern Society

The American Magic-Lantern Theater presents a Magic Lantern Show, the authentic Victorian, big-screen extravaganza that led to the movies. This program will be held in the Washington State History Museum Auditorium.

<http://www.magiclanternsociety.org/convention-2012.html>